262 The grubs (ɔm´nol) of horseflies and of bees were eaten; the bees were smoked out with a damp tule smudge. The ground wasp (po'a´onai) larva was said to be eaten by the Telamni (it [252] was scarce in the tular). This was called tapːsi, was roasted on coals and eaten with acorn mush. Caterpillars (mane´ča) were skinned (singed?) and eaten.

● [225] Turtles (ṭu´ñkɔt) were plentiful. They were stabbed under the throat with a sharp stick, put on hot coals, and roasted; then the shell was broken off and the larger entrails were discarded.

226 A great variety of fish was available for all the lake people. The Chunut informant 262 spoke of the following. "Greaser" fish (tawa´'at) was a black fish with a large head and small body. The chub (tu´konu) had "fat all over his tail." The steelhead (?) or "lake trout" was called e´pːs. The brook trout (?) (so´lul) was colorless save for a red edge on its forked tail. The minnows or young of any fish were called ta´hːs. Salmon (da´ṭu) were well known and greatly depended upon, but eels were said to appear only at Sanger on the Kings River. A certain fish (u´duṭ) had a large head like a catfish but was not the same thing, for catfish were called tamṭa´na "because he has whiskers" (tamu´ṭanin, whiskers he has). The crayfish (keṭa´keṭat) were common, as were water mussels (ka´pap, the shells; ta´sːp, the flesh). Abalones (ṭo´nːk) were known only by their shells which were brought in from the coast.

226 Fishnets (to´noi) were dragged between the shore, where one end was fastened, and a balsa which moved in an arc toward the shore. Diving for fish was a common practice, as in the foothills. The Tachi procured fish for Estudillo by diving with hand nets.

At 9 A.M. came four Tache chiefs...Thirty-seven young men accompanied them, all of them prepared with hand nets for catching fish in this San Gabriel [Kings] River. This they did [147] before my very eyes, with great agility, diving quickly and staying under the water so long that I prayed. Some remained under five credos [during five "Lord's prayers"], others no less than three.[36]

A corral (wise´'i) for catching fish was made in shallow waters by setting up button-willow stakes and intertwining them with tules. Persons waded about with baskets catching up the fish which others drove into the corral. This method of fishing was seen by Mayfield, whose description is included for its graphic qualities. It appears that it was the Choinimni who used the weir while at the lake.

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[36] Gayton, Estudillo, 78.

3: Latta Y-5 (1923-1948)1949 NS29 Yokuts NS29

"Jackrabbit" Bill Browning, who passed away near Delano about 1935. Surely the old lakes were a fisherman's paradise.

In addition to the lake trout described, a small turtle was captured in great numbers and shipped to the San Francisco market. Tulare Lake terrapin was a common article on San Francisco and other bay city menus.

SPEARING FISH

Although we hear much about hunting with bows and arrows and we see some bows and arrows in collections of Indian relics, it is probable that throughout a great portion of the San Joaquin Valley the spear was in as common use as was the bow and arrow. This is particularly true along the tule swamps and lake shores throughout the central portion of the valley. And who has seen a Yokuts spear?

From about the shores of Tulare Lake a collection comprising almost 1,000 chipped stone points contains approximately 700 that would be classed as too large for use with an arrow. Several hundred of them are larger than needed for a spear. From what we know concerning the life of the Indians who were here when the white people came, a considerable portion of the fish taken from the lake were obtained by spearing. How this was accomplished upon the lake has been outlined in the preceding chapter concerning fishing rafts.

For a description of the method of taking fish along the various valley streams, we are again indebted to Mayfield. His description brings home to us the fact that the modern salmon spear, or gig, having a detachable point, was used by the local Indians long before white people were known in this territory. His account follows:

"Trout and other large fish were speared with a gig almost like a modern salmon gig. It had a long slender pole for a handle.

"This pole was often as long as twenty feet, and about an inch in diameter. It would be as straight as an arrow, and as smooth as glass.

"A fisherman took a great deal of pride in his fish gig and would keep it polished until it was shiny.

"On the larger end of the pole they would fit two short, pieces of hardwood or bone. One of these was sharp, was lashed on one side of the big end of the pole, and projected beyond the end of the pole about four inches. The other piece was